

Fairfax County Trends

February 2004



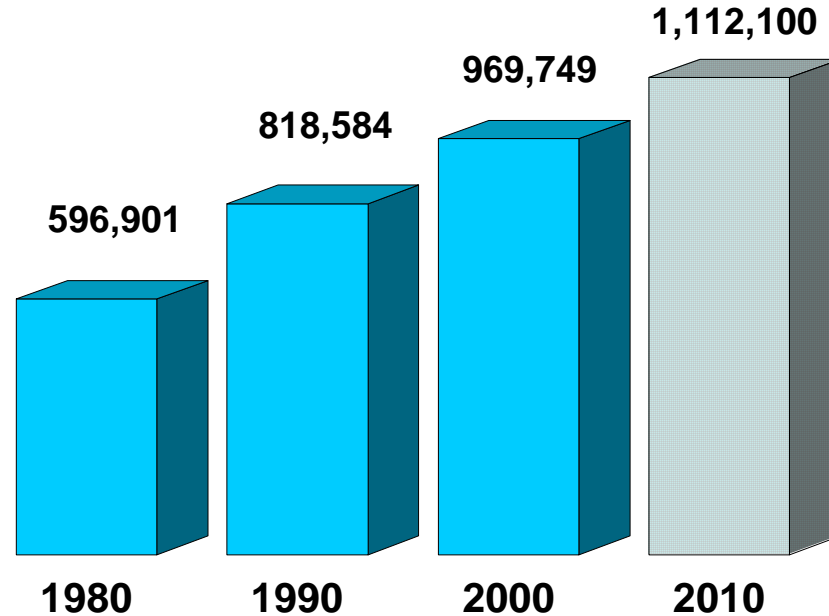


**Prepared by the
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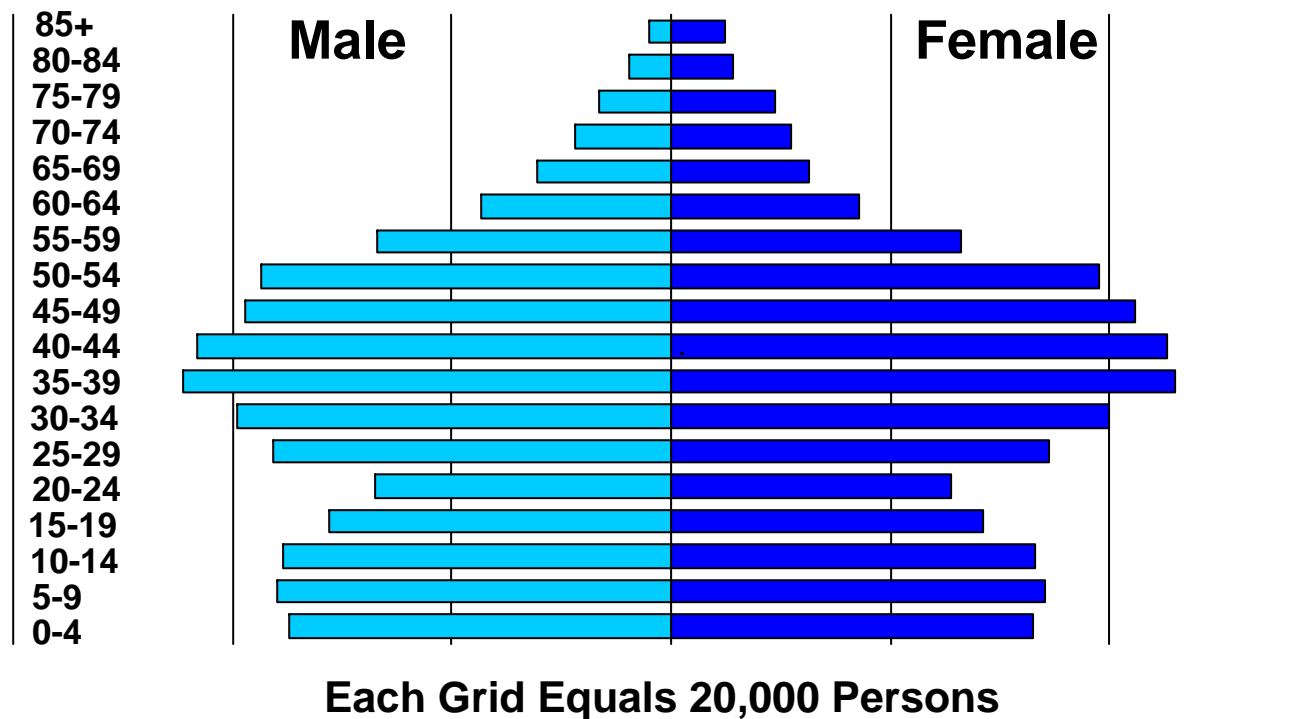
Total Fairfax County Population: 1980 to 2010

- Fairfax County has experienced double-digit population growth each decade since the 1970's. From 2000 to 2010, the population is expected to grow by another 15% to 1,112,100. With this rapid population growth comes economic growth and an increased demand for infrastructure and basic services, such as roads, schools, restaurant and building inspections, and sewer and septic services.
- Within the overall population growth, the two fastest growing segments are the seniors, 65 years and older, and persons under age 20. Growth in the school-aged population has a direct impact on the demand not only for schools and teachers, but also for child welfare and youth services, and other human services.



Fairfax County Population by Age in 2000

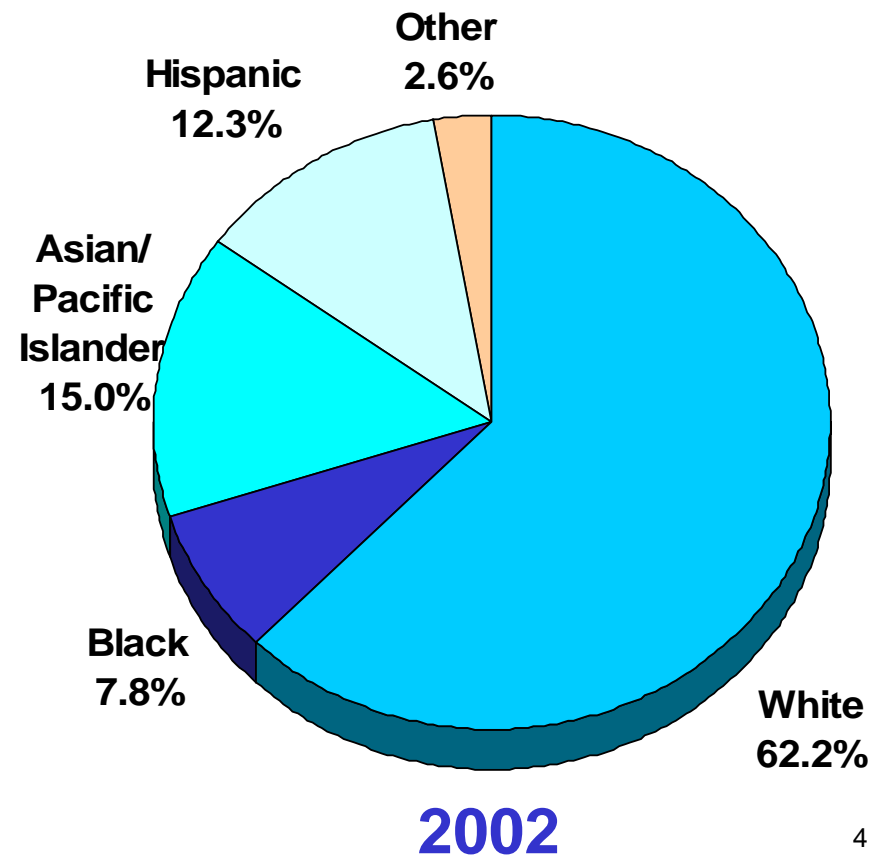
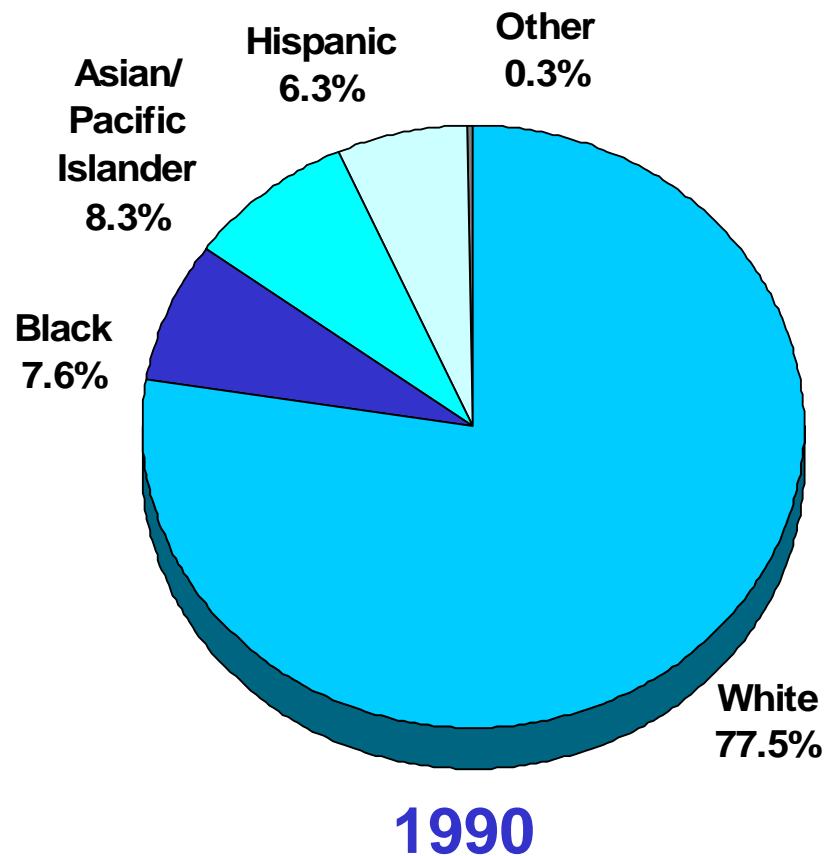
- **Fairfax County has been getting older.** From 1980 to 2000, the number of persons in Fairfax County age 65 and older more than doubled, from 29,385 to 80,833. While this age group is growing across the nation, Fairfax County's rate of growth is much faster than the national rate.
- Nationwide and in Fairfax County, the 20-34 age group is smaller than it was in 1990. In Fairfax County, this age group would be even smaller without immigration.



Racial/Ethnic Distribution

Fairfax County - 1990 and 2002

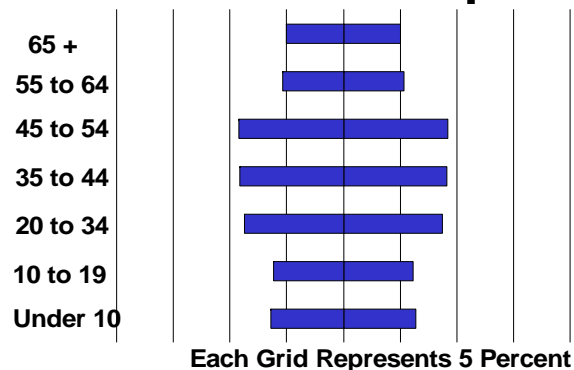
- During the past decade, our community has become richly diverse in ethnicity, language, and cultural background. The Hispanic and Asian populations are the fastest growing groups in the County.



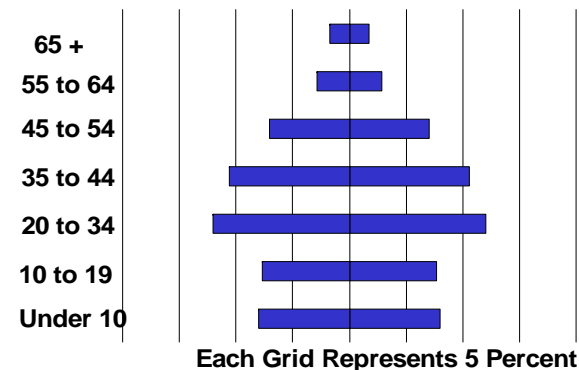
Fairfax County Population Age Distribution: 2000

- Non-Hispanic whites are the oldest group in the County, with a median age of over 39 years and about 10% over age 65. Hispanics are the youngest group, with a median age of almost 28 years and only 7% older than age 55.

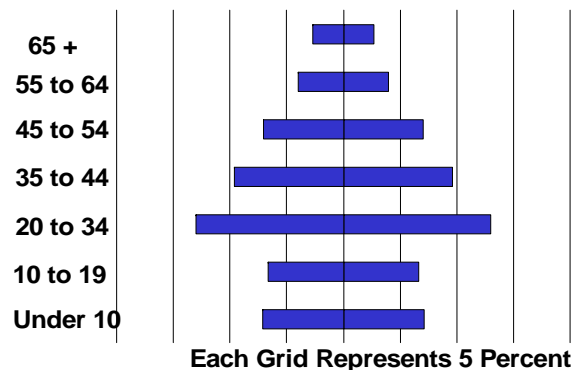
White - Not Hispanic



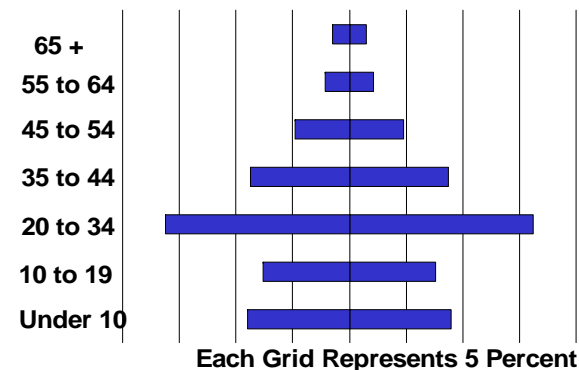
Black



Asian



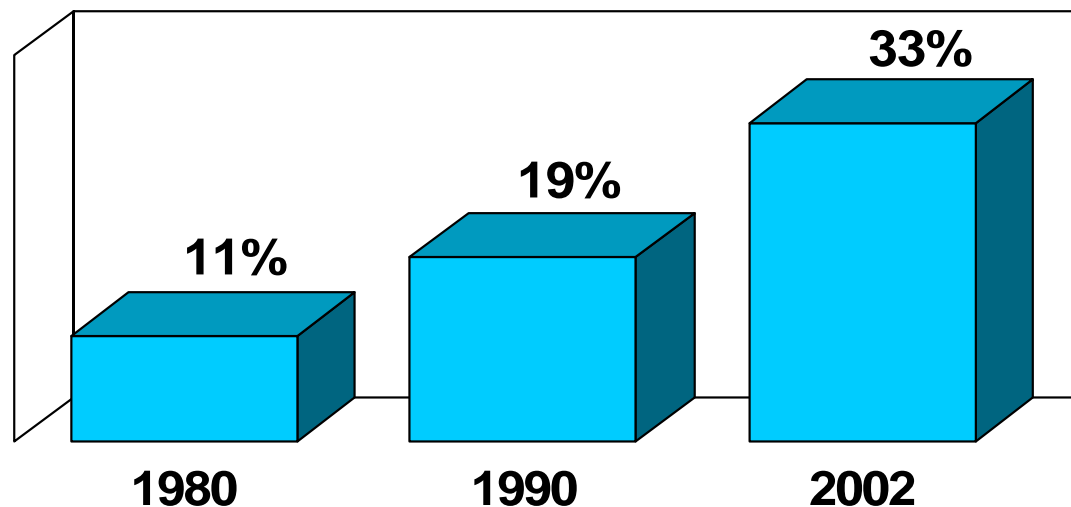
Hispanic



Persons Speaking a Language Other than English at Home

(Fairfax County Residents 5 Years and Older)

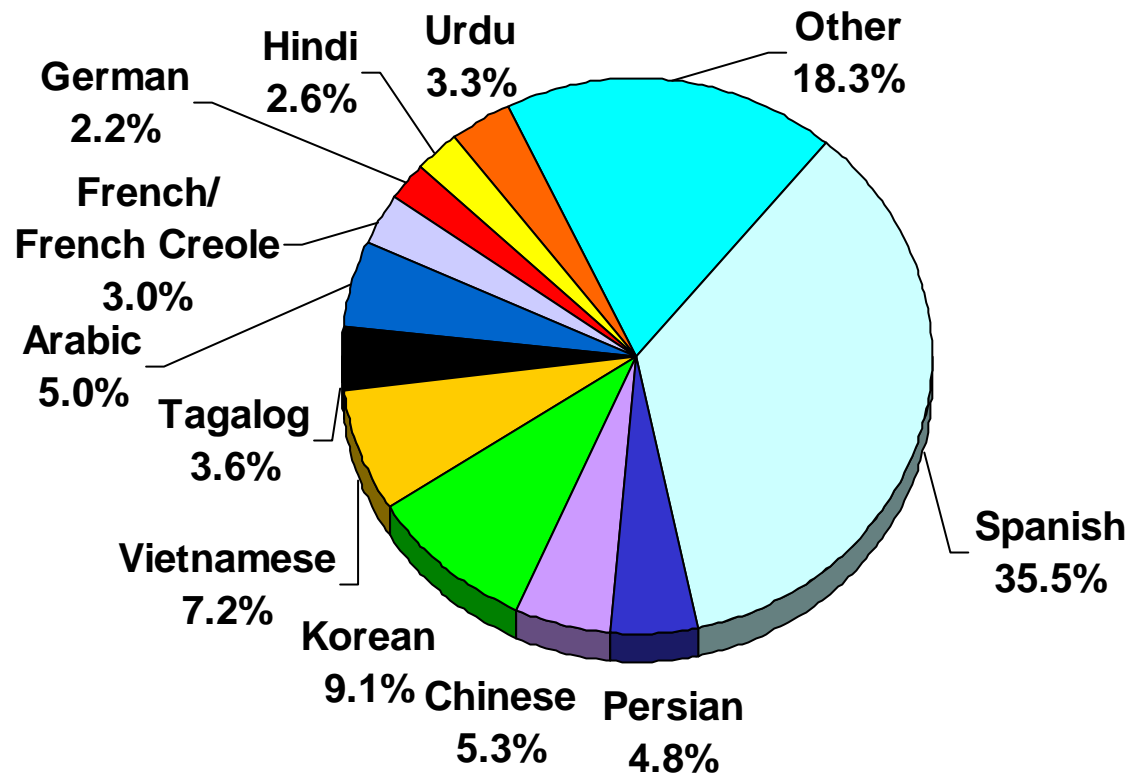
- Persons who speak a language other than English at home are a rapidly growing group representing approximately 90% of the net population growth from 1990 to 2000. Between 2000 and 2002, a net increase of 32,000 persons who speak a language other than English at home have been added to the county.
- Fairfax County differs significantly from national trends, with a third (32.9%) of the Fairfax population vs. 18.3% of the U.S. population speaking another language at home.
- It continues to be a challenge for local government to provide culturally appropriate services and to tap into the workforce expertise of multicultural communities.



Language Spoken at Home in Fairfax County: 2000

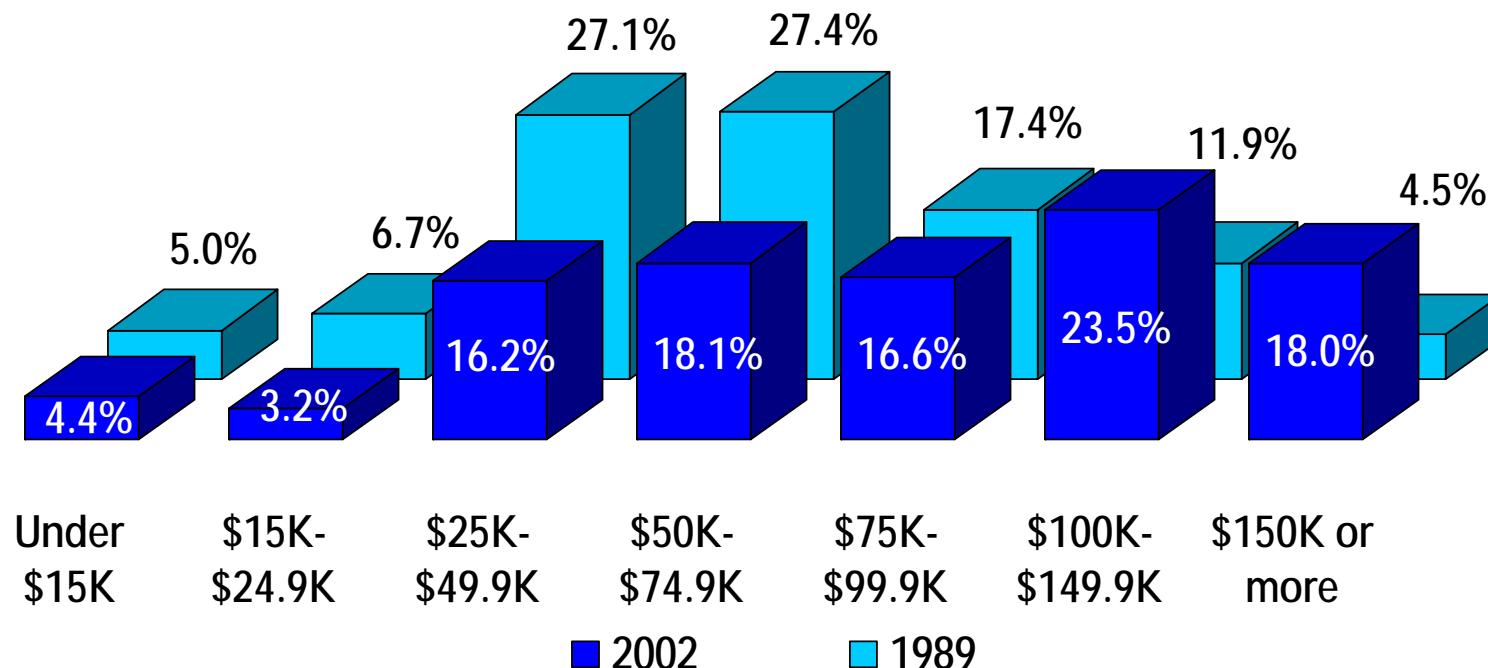
(Persons Age 5 Years and Older Speaking a Language Other than English at Home)

- Fairfax County is much more linguistically diverse than the rest of the nation, with over 100 languages spoken here. Of persons who speak a language other than English at home in Fairfax County, over 35% speak Spanish. Nationally, the figure is 60%.



Household Income Distribution: 1989 and 2002

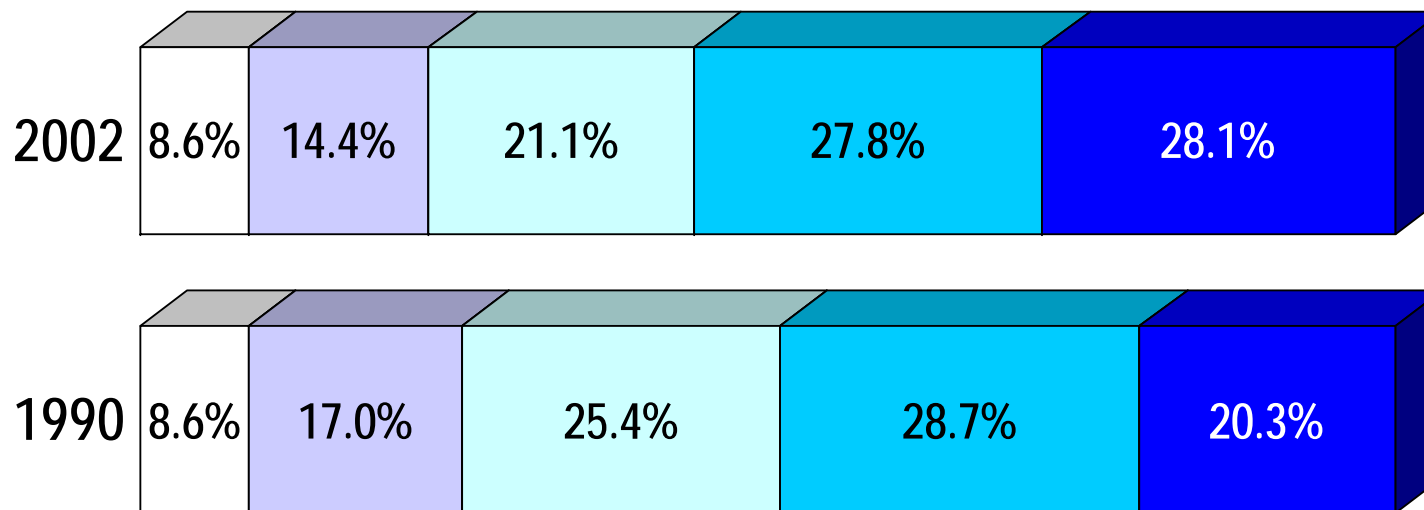
- From 1989 to 2002, very low income households (<\$25,000) declined as a proportion but remained the same in number of households. Low to moderate income households (\$25,000-\$74,999) declined as a proportion and in number, while high income households (\$100,000+) grew rapidly in proportion and number.
- While poverty rates are low in Fairfax County (4.5% in 2002), approximately 10% of Fairfax County households have incomes below 200% of poverty, which is closer to the income needed to approach “self-sufficiency” in Fairfax County.



Educational Attainment Fairfax County Persons Age 25 and Older

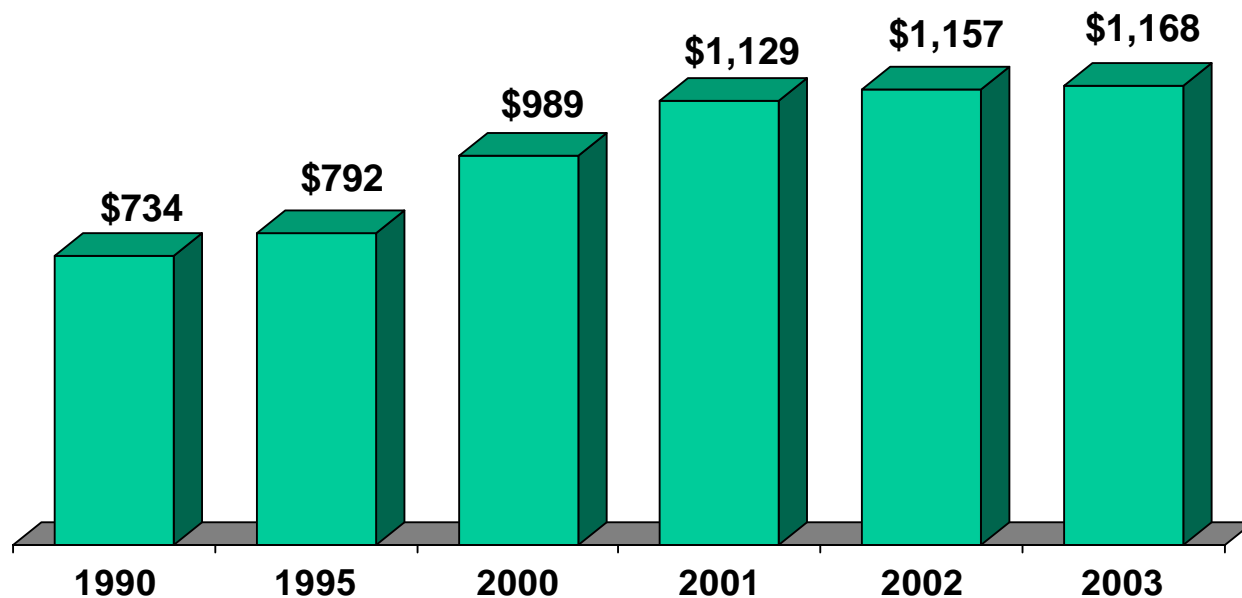
- Between 1990 and 2000, there was an increase in the number and proportion of persons with four year college degrees or more education, with 55.9% of Fairfax County residents having at least a college degree. The Fairfax County rate is more than double the national rate of 25.9%.

□ Less than HS □ HS/GED □ Some College/Assoc/Other □ BS Degree □ Post Grad



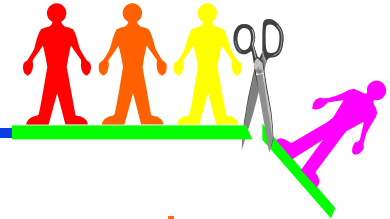
Average Monthly Rental Rates in Fairfax County 1990 - 2003

- Between 1990 and 2003, the average monthly rental rate in Fairfax County has increased by almost 60%. The rate has increased by 18% in the last three years.
- More than two-thirds (67.1%) of Fairfax County renters pay \$1,000 or more per month, compared to only 15.6% of renters nation-wide.
- In Fairfax County, 37% of renters spend 30% or more of their income on housing.



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2002 American Community Survey and Department of Systems Management for Human Services, *2003 Rental Housing Complex Census Analysis*.

Demographic Characteristics



	1970	1980	1990	2002	2010
Population (000)	454.3	596.9	818.6	1,004.4	1.1 M
Median Age (years)	25.2	30.1	33.1	37.3	Older
At - Place Employment (000)	96.7	192.4	371.7	524.3	653.2
Percent Minority	6.8%	13.8%	22.6%	37.8%	Larger %

Sources: Department of Systems Management for Human Services (population), U.S. Census Bureau (age and percent minority), Virginia Employment Commission (employment) and Department of Planning and Zoning (employment forecast).